

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 02600 072252Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 SCS-03 L-03 SCA-01 H-01 DHA-02
/019 W

-----072323Z 063021 /66

O 071939Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9733

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 2600

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC (HARRIS, KENTON L.), NI
SUBJECT: QUESTIONS REGARDING DETENTION OF KENTON L. HARRIS

REF: (A) EASUM/ PATRICK--MARSHALL TELCON 071740Z MAR 77,
(B) 76 LAGOS A-30, (C) 76 LAGOS A-50, (D) 76 LAGOS 11288

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
THERE FOLLOW ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS POSED IN REFTELCON.

1. HAS HARRIS BEEN RELEASED
ANS.: YES, AT APPROXIMATELY 1400
HRS. LOCAL. HE DEPARTED LAGOS AT 1935 HRS. LOCAL ON PAN AM
185 FOR JFK.
 2. WHAT WERE CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST HARRIS? ANS.: NO CHARGES
WERE EVER BROUGHT.
 3. BUT DOESN'T HABEAS CORPUS APPLY IN NIGERIA? ANS.: YES.
IN MOST CIRCUMSTANCES HABEAS CORPUS, AS GUARANTEED IN CHAPTER
111, SECTION 21(3) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF 1963 STILL APPLIES.
HOWEVER, UNDER THE ARMED FORCES AND POLICE SPECIAL POWERS DECREE
NO. 24 OF 1967 AND THE SUPREMACY AND ENFORCEMENT OF POWERS
DECREE NO. 28 OF 1970, THE JUDICIARY IS PREVENTED FROM QUES-
TIONING THE SUBSTANCE OF FMG DETENTION ORDERS.
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PAGE 02 LAGOS 02600 072252Z

BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. (FYI. EMBASSY IS PRACTICALLY CERTAIN
NO OFFICIAL DETENTION ORDER WAS DRAWN UP ON HARRIS. THE NIGER-
IAN SECURITY ORGANIZATION (REEIC) PLACED HIM IN INVESTIGATIVE
DETENTION PURE AND SIMPLE. RESUME UNCLASSIFIED

4. WHY WAS CONSULAR ACCESS NOT GRANTED? ANS.: ALTHOUGH
EMBASSY REQUESTED CONSULAR ACCESS IN REPRESENTATIONS AND NOTE

TO MEA, AND MINISTRY AGREED TO LOOK INTO MATTER, FMG NEVER
OFFICIALLY ACKNOWLEDGED TO EMBASSY THAT HARRIS WAS IN THEIR
CUSTODY.
CROSBY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 07-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: CASC, NI, (HARRIS, KENTON L)
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